BEEF TRUST METHODS.

THOUSANDS OF HUMAN BEINGS GROUND DOWN BY PITILESS CORPORATIONS.

man Treatment of Men and Women Who Are Forced to Work in Great Establishments.-In Lowest Depths of Misery.

BY UPTON SINCLAIR.

(New York World)

It is lit ally the truth that the packis no place in all Packingtown where the slightest consideration is shown for a human being. They are compelled to be on hand at a certain hour in the morning, even though there is no killing to be done: they are laid off without the slightest ceremony, and out-of-the-way place for fertilizers they have no idea when the work will where a "bone barrel" could be placed. start up again. They are cheated out To reduce bones to fertilizer without of their pay most shamelessiy; if the use of acids takes time, but for bosses will start them up before the the home garden it is well worth waitand do not make a full hour, even layer of bones, broken up somewhat. though they fail by only five minutes. they get nothing for it. If any error is made in the computation of their wet with liquid manure from the ling of the fowls in this way. The work they have no redress; there is always one answer to every complaint: "If you do not like it you can go else-

ONE VAST TRUST.

The conditions in Packingtown have reached their present state of degradation by the natural process of competition, or rather, there is competition of labor while there is no competition of capital. There is but one vast employing trust and a body of absolutely unorganized and helpless types of human beings are coming there. There has been a regular procession of the races through Packingtown; the industry was founded by skilled cattle butchers from Germany then they began the importing of Irishmen. After the strike of 1894 they set to work deliberately to crowd the labor market so as to prevent further troubles; first they brought Poles, then Bohemians, then Lithuanians, and now finally Slovaks. These are nearly all undersized, wretched people who cannot speak English, and who impress one as having no more intelligence than a dumb animal. The bosses beat them and kick them and spit in their faces. I saw sights of this sort which fairly made my blood boil. I saw a poor, wretched Lithuanian pushing a truck in one of Swift & Co.'s cellars: it was loaded with hams, and the poor fellow was scarcely able to stir it on the level floor. He came to a slight incline and could not get it up, and the boss fell upon him and pounded him out of the place. I presume that he was "firing" him. Another and stronger man took his place.

COMPELLED TO VISIT SALOONS

One of the things pointed out in the President's report is that the men are provided with no places to eat. It is

wooden floor and slide part way into a filthy men's toilet. It was picked up by two employes, placed upon a truck, Crate and Machine Fattening firing carried into the cooling room and hung up with other carcasses, no effort being made to clean it. . . .

ham."

Home-made Bone Fertilizer.

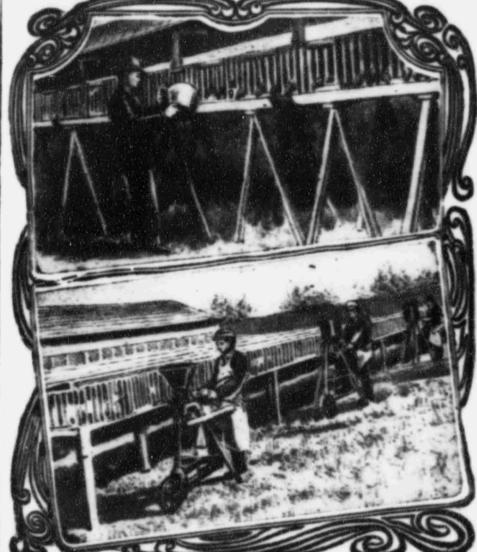
and cover these with wood ashes and

PROFITS IN CHICKENS.

the Highest Prices. T. F. McGrew.

Some time since we published an "In another establishment, equally article on poultry growing North and well known, a long table was noted West, and referred to the large numcovered with several hundred pounds ber of fowls that are grown upon the of cooked scraps of beef and other wheat fields of the Northwest and meats. Some of these meat scraps were which are purchased and shipped in to dry, leathery, and unfit to be eaten; the big packing establishments of and in the heap were found pieces of Kansas City and other western centres. pig-skin, and even some bits of rope The packers of the west have estabstrands and other rubbish. Inquiry lished enormous finishing plants, an evoked the frank admission from the they are called, for the feeding, faters trer, their men like dogs. There man in charge that this was to be tening and preparing of poultry of all ground up and used in making 'potted kinds for market. The fowlshere are received in large numbers, placed in coops that hold from three to five birds, according to their size, and are "trough-fed"-that is, they are fed a Everyone with a large garden has an mixture of ground meals properly prepared in troughs, and permitted to eat as much as they will consume, from three to five times per day.

Poultry crate-fattened in this way will continue to cut well and thrive from nine to twelve days. So soon as they cense to feed themselves ravenwhistles blow, and cheat them that ing for. Put in a barrel three or four ously from these troughs, what is way. If they are working overtime inches of soil, then a closely packed known as the cramming machine is brought into service. The manipulator of the cramming machine must have experience in the handling and feed-



SHELTERED CRATES USED FOR CRATE-PATTENING. POULTRY STUFFERS AT WORK

difficult to imagine what this means in stables, if possible, or with plain water cramming machine is composed of a the winter time. I saw them crouching strengthened with 10 cents worth feed trough or chamber placed upon in the stairways of the packing of washing ammonia. Repeat the top of a three-legged, movable houses and outside under the sheds to layers as there are bones enough until table, as it might be called, with a get away from the falling snow. In the barrel is full. Cover with soil, plunger in the top, placed there after conversation with one of the packers rounding the surface, and sow with the cylinder is filled with the properly I spoke of the horribly low wages that clover or grass seed, or plant the top prepared food, and with the pressure were paid to the men, and he answered with some plant that will knit the soil of the foot upon the lever, the food is that there was no use in paying any together as a cover, that will not let forced through the tube into the crop more, because the balance went to the through much moisture. In a year's

ferred. To intensify and improve this, of melted tallow is mixed into the of the fowl. adds fatty globules throughout the

THE CRAMMER IS AN EXPERT. entire careass. A fowl that has been The operator in charge of the cram- fattened with corn is usually what ming machine has several assistants might be termed greasy meat, while who bring the fowls from the coop to poultry finished or fattened in this him; he placing the tube down the way lays on close or solid ment with throat beyond the windpipe towards no globules of fat scattered through it. the crop, fills the same by a pressure Crate and machine fattened poultry of the foot, always gauging the amount sells for the highest prices of any forced into the crop by the hand poultry sent to market.

ressure upon it.

A peculiarity in these conditions is
This manner of feeding is carried on the fact that poor or inferior specipressure upon it. for a sufficient number of days to mens cannot be successfully fattened make the entire period of feeding from or finished in this way. Only the well-10 to 21 days. An experienced handler grown thrifty specimens can be profitknows just the time when the fowls ably crate-fattened and improved in are finished ready for killing. When weight and character of flesh. One this time arrives, they are speedily must understand thoroughly well the killed, dry-picked, and placed in proper process of handling poultry for this condition for market. purpose, or he cannot succeed. Where

The food made use of for this pur- it is well done and nicely finished and use is a mixture of meals of several prepared for market, poultry finished kinds, to conform to the requirements in this manner is the most desirable of the market. Ground outs, corn both in this country and abroad. and middlings, mixed with boiled milk or water into a very dry mash or mixed food is made use of for the first 12 to 14 days for trough feeding. During this period, the fowls have grit and plenty of water to drink where they can help themselves. So soon as they show a disposition to stop feeding themselves, all the food, water and grit is removed from the trough, and the stuffing machine is brought into service. The same meals mixed into a gruel are used for this purpose, the food forced into the crop

8. OGDEN ARMOUR. UPTON SINCLAIR TWO PROMINENT MEN IN THE BEEF TRUST INVESTIGATION.

saloon keeper. My reply was that for time empty the barrel, spade the conone thing I had observed that the com | tents together, make into a heap, and panies pay their men in checks, and let it stand for a month, then use as that saloons are the most convenient wanted. places in which these can be cashed: and that also as a consequence of the lack of dining-rooms the men are literally compelled to resort to the saloons in winter. The packer then dropped the subject.

Prior to the last strike in Chicago the union officers made a computation, based upon ten thousand time checks and found that the average weekly wage in Packingtown was between \$5 and \$6; since the strike, conditions have of course grown worse. A friend of mine who has recently been making investigations for me stated that he stood in a saloon on a Saturday night and gathered up the pay envelopes of the men as they came in and got their checks cashed. He collected over a score, and the average was less than 4: there were some as low as \$1.70 This represented a week's wages for an able-bodied man in Packingtown at a

FROM THE BEEF TRUST REPORT.

Extract From Neill-Reynolds Document Which the President Sent to Congress.

"An absence of cleanliness was found eing prepared for the various meat-

"As an extreme example of the en-ire disregard on the part of employer any notion of cleanliness in handling d on its way to the o

Country Autoing on the Glorious Fourth.





ith the stuffing machine in a semi-

fluid condition, and no water or grit

abatever is given to the fowls during

this period, the semi-liquid food fur-

nishing sufficient moisture for the

GREAT GAIN IN WEIGHT AND

QUALITY.

Fowls that are fed in this way gain

arcely in weight. For instance, a

foul placed in the coop weighing three

pounds and a quarter, bones, feathers

nd offal, would weigh from one and

half to two pounds more when fin-

shed adding in this way two pounds

of callide meat to the curenss, and so

proving the entire carcass as to add

ts value over that of poultry of that

nd not so well finished. Thus, a fowl

eighing three pounds and a quarter,

erth 9 cents per pound, would sell for

ree weeks, would weigh five and a

marter pounds and sell for twelve

ents a pound at the lowest calcula-

tion, which would be 63 cents for the

ame careass, after having been fed for three weeks. The estimate placed

upon the cost of feeding is about ten

What is known as the yellow-

skinned or vellow-meated poultry is

prime favorite in the markets of this

the richness of these colors, meal made

catered to by these packers, fowls

having the white color of flesh are pre-

ground outs, meal from white corn,

and some finely ground rice is made

use of. To add luster, finish and

quality to all these, a small per cent.

warm mash, and fed in a semi-liquid

state the last four or five days of feed-

PACKING FOR MARKET.

that will hold 12, 24 and 48 chickens are made use of. Fowls all of one

size and weight with the same ap

pearance are packed in one box. This

plan is of great advantage in selling

Farmers and country people generally

the carelessness in dressing and send-

ing their fowls to market. When nice-

ly graded and selected, all of one kind

in a package, both eggs and poultry

bring the highest prices. It is the

tinest quality that makes the profit in poultry growing. This is what the large packing houses, which hundle undreds of thousands of fowls in this

way, aim to make of all they fatten .-

Cultivation of Garden Crops.

he employed for most garden crops, and during dry weather the depth should not exceed 2 inches. By keep-ing the surface soil well stirred what

is termed a "dust mulch" is formed,

and while this layer of finely pulver-

ined soil will become quite dry, it pre-vents the escape of moisture through the pores of the soil. A mulch con-

sisting of fine manure, clippings from the lawn, or any similar material,

spread to a distance of 10 or 12 inches

around the plants will preserve the moisture; but the mulch should not be

so heavy or matted as to exclude the

A crust forming over the soil after

a rain or watering is detrimental to

plant growth and should be broken up as soon as the land can be worked. To determine when the soil is suf-

ficiently dry for cultivation, apply the mme test of squeezing together in the land as is utilized in determining when

plow. Sandy soils can be worked uch sooner than clay soils after a in. Too much importance cannot

be placed upon the matter of thorough cultivation of the garden, and if the

Frequent shallow cultivation should

lose a large amount of profit through

In packing for market, square boxes

The fattening of poultry with corn

country. To intensify and beautify

process of fattening. For the English market, which is largely

to twelve cents per head.

cents as it came from the

The same fowl, after being fed

three to four cents per pound to

greatest improvement.

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